**DIDDLEBURY PARISH COUNCIL**

**Chairman: Cllr D Hedgley**

Clerk: Mrs Jean de Rusett, The Grange, Leinthall Earls, Leominster, Herefordshire HR6 9TS Tel: 01568 770640 "e" mail address: diddleburypc@gmail.com

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**MINUTES**

**Of the Parish Council Meeting**

**held on Wednesday 25th October, 2017 at 7.30pm at Diddlebury Village Hall**

**110/17: Present and apologies for absence**

 Cllr. D Hedgley, Chairman, Cllr. R Povall – Vice-Chairman, Cllr. A Watson, Cllr. T O'Boyle, Cllr. S Povall, Cllr. K Worthington, Cllr. S Thomas and Cllr. M Thomas

**Apologies**

Apologies were received from Cllr. M Woodhouse.

**In attendance**:

The Clerk Mrs J de Rusett, Unitary Councillor Motley, eight members of the public and Mr McCabe, agent for the planning applicants.

**111/17: Declarations of Interest relating to this meeting.**

Members are requested to declare any Disclosable Personal or Pecuniary Interests they may have in matters to be considered at this meeting in accordance with the Localism Act 2011 s32 and The Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012.

No Declarations of interest were made.

**112/17: Public involvement session:**

No matters were raised at this juncture, six members of the public attended concerning the planning application and left after it was dealt with.

**113/17: Approval the Minutes of the Meeting held on 27th September 2017**

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 27th September 2017 had been circulated prior to the meeting. No amendments were raised.

Cllr. R Povall **proposed** that the Minutes be approved as a correct record,

Cllr. T O’Boyle **seconded** the proposal:

**Vote:** The members **voted** unanimously to approve the Minutes and they were duly signed by the Chairman.

**114/17: Matters arising from the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of 27th September 2017 not dealt with elsewhere on the Agenda**

080/17/3: The Chairman advised that following the meeting concerning parking and access arrangements around the village hall, a plan has been drawn up by Mr C Thomas and Mr J Brough. A copy of the plan was circulated to the meeting and copies are being sent to all parents and other regular users of the car park for comments. It is proposed that the spaces on the car park will be marked out temporarily to see how the plan operates in practice. The Chairman thanked Mr Brough and Mr Thomas for all their work in producing the plan.

097/17/1: The Chairman advised that he and Mr Ian Davies went on a seminar concerning the Shropshire Local Plan Review and he outlined some of the information arising from the seminar. He will deal with the matter under Agenda item 9.

**115/17 – Reports**

115/17/1 – Chairman’s Report

The Chairman reported on his recent parish council activities, which included:

* He had attended the seminar on the Place Plan Review and had considered DPC’s response at length with Mr Ian Davies
* He has had contacts with Highways, Geoff Neden and the EMO re the wall in Mill Lane which needs repairs, estimated at £200
* He has been involved with the new car parking/access arrangements at the village hall

115/17/2 – Unitary Councillor’s Report

Cllr. Motley raised numerous issues:

* SC’s new cabinet are appreciating the extent of the £8 million budget deficit in adult care and are seeking savings, as the Leader explained at the recent LJC meeting at Acton Scott. Funds for youth commissioning in South Shropshire may be withdrawn despite Lisa Bedford’s success in obtaining match-funding. The Community Engagement Team (of which Lisa is a member) may have its funding withdrawn; the Environmental Grant (which fund the EMOs) is subject to a review by a Task and Finish Group, and may be withdrawn.
* The AONB’s structure is under review: it was overseen by SC’s outdoor partnership team, but the senior manager’s post is to go and its role is being reviewed: any decisions rest with DEFRA, who are currently overwhelmed with BREXIT issues.
* RSN are still fighting for fair funding for rural authorities and the National Centre for Rural Health is campaigning to recruit medical staff for rural areas.

115/17/3 – Diddlebury Village Hall Report

Cllr. O’Boyle advised that steps have been taken to improve the acoustics in the hall and the measures appear to be working. A successful Harvest Supper had been held and a play is scheduled for 11th November. The outside lighting is still a work-in-progress.

Some councillors mentioned that most people in the village didn’t know the Harvest Supper was taking place as it was only advertised in the Corvedale News, which has a limited circulation; they urged DVHC to promote the hall actively on social media such as Facebook which is the favoured information medium of the younger generation. Concerns were also raised that the hiring rates for the village hall had still not been published. Cllr. R Povall had heard the hourly rate had doubled from £7 p.h. to £15. Cllr. O’Boyle said the DVHC are still debating the hiring rates. Cllr. Watson suggested that DVHC should hold an open forum at the start of their committee meetings where parishioners could attend to raise issues with the committee. The Clerk enquired where the village hall notice board was: it had gone into storage for the duration of the renovations but has not yet reappeared. Cllr. S Thomas will make enquiries.

115/17/4 – Flood Action Group

Cllr. O’Boyle reported that the recent multi-agency meeting had been productive. Luke Neal of the Shropshire Wildlife Trust is actively helping with Slow the Flow – 50 new dams will be installed at the end of the shooting season. He is also examining the Pye Brook and Peaton/Bouldon flow rates. A further clearance had been held last Sunday on the Mill Lane part of the Diddlebrook. The issue of the ownership of the wall adjoining the bridge in Mill Lane is being debated as it needs repairs. Cllrs. M Thomas and R Povall believe it to be owned by Highways.

 The FAG request that CIL funds be made available for flood alleviation measures for the forthcoming Lower Corfton development and that this be included in the forthcoming Place Plan Review. Cllr. R Povall expressed the view that any such works should be the responsibility of the developers.

The FAG’s application to become a non-statutory agency in the planning process had not been successful. The FAG therefore requested that DPC copies to the FAG each planning application received. This was agreed.

115/17/5 – Report by Cllr. T O’Boyle on a seminar run by the campaigners “20’s Plenty For Us” he attended concerning the possible introduction of 20mph speed limits in all built-up /residential areas in Shropshire

Cllr. O’Boyle advised on the arguments put forward in support of the campaign and circulated to all members copies of the hand-outs produced at the seminar. He asked that all members consider the documentation and that the issue be re-visited at the next meeting as he would like to propose that The Moors and Mill Lane be designated as 20mph speed zones. It was agreed this will be an agenda item for the November meeting.

115/17/6 – PPSG

Cllr. S Thomas advised the PPSG had met the previous week to discuss the Place Plan Review. It was agreed the matter would be further discussed under Agenda Item 9.

115/17/7 – Tree Warden’s report

Cllr. R Povall advised that the nursery school has been asked to remove some willow trees. The parties involved apparently did not believe that any planning permission was required: however he had examined the trees in question and confirmed that planning permission was required. It was agreed that the Clerk would contact the school (as landowners) to advise that an application must be submitted to Shropshire Council prior to any action being taken to remove the trees.

**116/17 – Planning matters**

The members considered planning application **17/04539/FUL** – an application by Mr Glasson for the conversion of agricultural outbuildings to form four dwellings, creation of an estate road, parking areas, private and communal garden land and the installation of septic tank drainage at Great Sutton Farm, Stanton Lacy.

The applicant and his agent Mr McCabe attended to assist the councillors.

The Chairman advised no objections had been raised to the application to DPC or on the planning portal. Pre-planning advice had been sought from a planning officer. Of the statutory bodies’ response, various conditions will be sought re design and on ecological issues.

The application is a diversification project, so fits within SC’s strategic policy CS4: it will have little impact visually and traffic increase will be negligible. Mr McCabe advised the private water supply may notbe inadequate in which case a connexion will be sought to mains water. Drainage arrangements are still being investigated.

Cllr. O’Boyle noted there were no garages on the plans. Mr McCabe advised this is because it is a barn conversion and garages cannot be accommodated: they were however looking at a shed for each property. Cllr. O’Boyle questioned the communal garden arrangement: Mr McCabe advised this was still under discussion and amended plans may have to be submitted. As far as possible they had adhered to the pre-planning advice given.

Cllr. S Povall felt that the four additional dwellings would create no visual impact and that in the countryside it is good to see redundant farm buildings being put to economic use.

After further discussion Cllr. S Povall **proposed** that the parish council strongly supports this application and raises no objections to it.

Proposal **seconded** by Cllr. Worthington

**Vote: unanimously in favour of the proposal.**

**117/17 – Consideration of Diddlebury footpath issues.**

The Chairman advised he had still not heard from Mr John Farley following their meeting about the route of Footpath 0525/26, so this matter is deferred to the next meeting.

Cllr. O’Boyle advised that the one remaining small kissing gate on FP20 has now been enlarged, so it can accommodate buggies. The feedback from parents using the footpath has been appreciative, as have comments from other footpath users. The Chairman proposed a vote of thanks to Cllr. S Povall who has paid for two of the new kissing gates, and to Cllr, O’Boyle for all his help on the project.

**118/17 – Place Plan Review**

From the documentation circulated and from the seminar he and Ian Davies had attended, the Chairman advised that the Place Plan has a new emphasis: Shropshire Council insist that CIL funds now have to be channelled into *infrastructure* projects only, so re-surfacing the village hall car park may not qualify (if it is a repair) and speed awareness signs do not qualify – the two items DPC most wanted to use CIL funds for. The impact of this change was discussed at length and its ramifications considered. The Chairman has drafted an initial response and it is going to the PPSG next week for further consideration and then hopefully the final version will be available for discussion at the parish council meeting on 22nd November.

**119/17 – Highways and Environmental matters**

S.C’s Communities Scrutiny Committee, Environmental Maintenance Grant Task and Finish Group are meeting in November to discuss the future of the grant (which funds EMOs) and had circulated a questionnaire to all parish and town councils raising various queries concerning the operation and effectiveness of the scheme. The Chairman and Clerk had drafted a response to the questionnaire and the Chairman read it to the meeting. The response was approved and the Clerk instructed to submit it.

The recent works carried out by the EMO were considered and agreed to be very satisfactory. Cllr. O’Boyle noted that missing bollards had been replaced in Mill Lane.

Cllr. Watson advised that a mobile speed camera is to be set up in Culmington as a result of a community-led protest: she asked if something similar could be done in Diddlebury. The Chairman advised Glyn Shaw (Highways) has always said the police will not enforce the speed limit on the B4368. The Clerk was asked to enquire about the Culmington initiative.

**120/17 – Consideration of correspondence and communications**

The members considered the following items of correspondence, which had been emailed to them prior to the meeting:

1. Place Plan Review documentation to be completed and submitted by 22nd December 2017 (being actioned under Agenda Item 9)
2. Questionnaire and associated documents re Environmental Maintenance Grant Programme (being actioned under Agenda Item 10)

3. Notification from Planning Department re application 17/03549//OUT – outline app. for the erection of one dwelling to include access on land adjacent to The Sun Inn, Planning permission granted 10.10.17

4. Notification from the Pensions Regulator re increase in pension payments w.e.f. 05.04.18

5. Notification from Shropshire Council, Electoral Services Dept. that DPC has been charged £100 for the uncontested election in May 2017, payable in April 2018.

6. email from Mr S Brown, SC’s Highways, Transport & Environmental Commissioning Manager, responding to DPC’s request for a definition of “street furniture” in relation to the Environmental Grant.

7. email from SALC inviting councillors and clerks to a meeting at The Shirehall, Shrewsbury on Thursday 9th November at 5.30pm for a briefing in the NHS “Future Fit” scheme.

**121/17 - Consideration of Financial matters**

Finance Report for October 2017

**1. Precept Funds** brought forward from September 2017 **£3,361.28**

***LESS:*** cheques to be authorised from Precept Funds on25.10.17

1. Clerk’s net salary for October 2017 £143.60

2. HMRC – PAYE on Clerk’s October salary £ 35.80

3. Cllr. T O’Boyle’s expenses on parish council business:

 Travelling expenses @ 45p per mile: 4 trips to Craven Arms

 re work on FP20 & one to conference in Shrewsbury

 Total mileage 86 miles - £38.70

 Refreshments for FP20 working party on 17.10.17- £10.60 Total claimed: £49.30 £ 49.30

4. Mr Gary Trim – total time for repairs to Westhope

 parish notice board. £ 11.10

5. Clerk’s expenses for October 2017 as itemised

* Contribution towards October telephone

 & Broadband expenses £17.50

 (This is £7.50 more than the usual £10.00 per

 month as BT surcharged £19.80 on

 Broadband usage in Sept. probably due to

 SALC sending two items which were in excess

 of 80 pages each).

* Postage: 12 x 2nd class stamps £ 6.72
* 1 x HP364 black ink cartridge £10.00
* Travelling expenses claimed at 45p per mile

15.10.17 – to Diddlebury Village Hall for

Parish Council meeting – 45 miles £20.25

 £54.47

LESS: Overpayment in September £ .06

 £54.41 £ 54.41

 Total deductions from Precept Funds £294.21 £ 294.21

 **Balance of Precept Funds c/fwd to November £3,067.07**

**2. Balance of Highways** **& Environmental Grant c/fwd**

 **From September 2017 £4,053.43**

Less: Invoice for time and travelling expenses EMO,

 Mr Gary Trim up to 19.10.17 £ 333.40

 **Balance c/fwd to November 2017** **£3,720.03**

**3. Transparency Code Grant c/fwd– no claims in October 2017 £1,108.40**

**4. Corvedale Youth Club funds b/fwd from September £650.39**

 **Less:**

Cheque for 1st Corvedale Brownies £200.00

 Cheque for The New Corvedale Youth Club £200.00

 Cheque for Diddlebury Village Hall £250.39

 £650.30 **£650.39**

 **Balance c/fwd nil**

**Authorisation of cheques drawn on Precept, Highways & Environmental and Corvedale Youth Club Funds**

 **Proposed by:** Cllr. M Thomas

 **Seconded by:** Cllr. R Povall

 **Vote: Unanimous**

**5. Total funds held by Diddlebury Parish Council after this meeting:**

Precept Funds c/fwd to November £3,067.07

Highways & Environmental Grant c/fwd to November £3,720.03

Transparency Code Grant c/fwd to November £1,108.40

Diddlebury Flood Action Group £ 209.57

Balance of donations for War Memorial £ 85.13

Ear-marked Reserve Fund for resurfacing DVH car park £5,412.29

 **Total of DPC funds c/fwd to November 2017 £13,602.49**

 **6. Bank statement/Cash Book Reconciliation:**

HSBC bank statement numbered 301 dated 14th October 2017 was reconciled against the Cash Book by Cllr. R Povall.

**122/17 - Any Other Business (for dissemination of information only)**

No matters were raised.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.35pm

Date and venue of the next Diddlebury Parish Council meeting

7.30pm on Wednesday 22nd November 2017 at Diddlebury Village Hall.

**MINUTES SIGNED BY David Hedgley**

**DATED 22nd November 2017**